

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority as a Continuation-In-Part application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application serial no. 09/521,308, entitled "Method For Utilizing Resource Characterizations To Optimize Performance In An Electronic Device," filed on March 9, 2000. This application is also related to, and claims priority in, co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/161,206, entitled "Method For Implementing Scheduling Mechanisms By Utilizing Resource Characterizations," filed on October 21, 1999, and to co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. ~~06/160,991~~ 60/160,991, entitled "Method For Quantifying Available System Resources Associated With A Hardware Component," filed on October 21, 1999. The related applications are commonly assigned.--